GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1419
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2001
DEVELOPMENT OF TECHNOLOGY FOR WATER SUPPLY BY CENTRAL MECHANICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE
VSM (RETD.) COL. CHOUDHARY

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Mechanical Research Institute, Durgapur was set up to develop technology for the supply of potable water has failed to achieve its objectives despite incurring huge expenditure thereon;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this project has failed to achieve fully the objectives of sponsored projects for providing potable drinking water in the areas where the water was brackish and to develop technology for the underwater mining;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to make this project worthy of fulfilling its objects?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M. K. PATIL)

(a) and (b)The Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute (CMERI), Durgapur (West Bengal) was engaged by the Ministry o Rural Development as the nodal agency for installing 132 desalination plants in a cost effective manner in selected villages of different States where potable water resources are far away from the residential areas and rainfall was insufficient, and to coordinate the programme for procurement and maintenance of the plants upto 5 years, before handing over to the State Governments. The activity for installation of desalination plants were initiated by CMERI in June, 1988.As per information received from CMERI, out of the 132 desalination plants sanctioned, 117 plants were commissioned and 77 plants have been handed over to various State Governments for operation after expiry of three years operation and maintenance period and three plants on as-is-where is basis to the respective State Governments.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.